~ Land Stage ~
HEAT ❸ 羊水の中の少女
THE GIRL IN THE AMNIOTIC FLUID

GOO OAL!!
SCREEECH
I DID IT!
SLIDE
N... NO WAY ...
ハアハア
haa haa

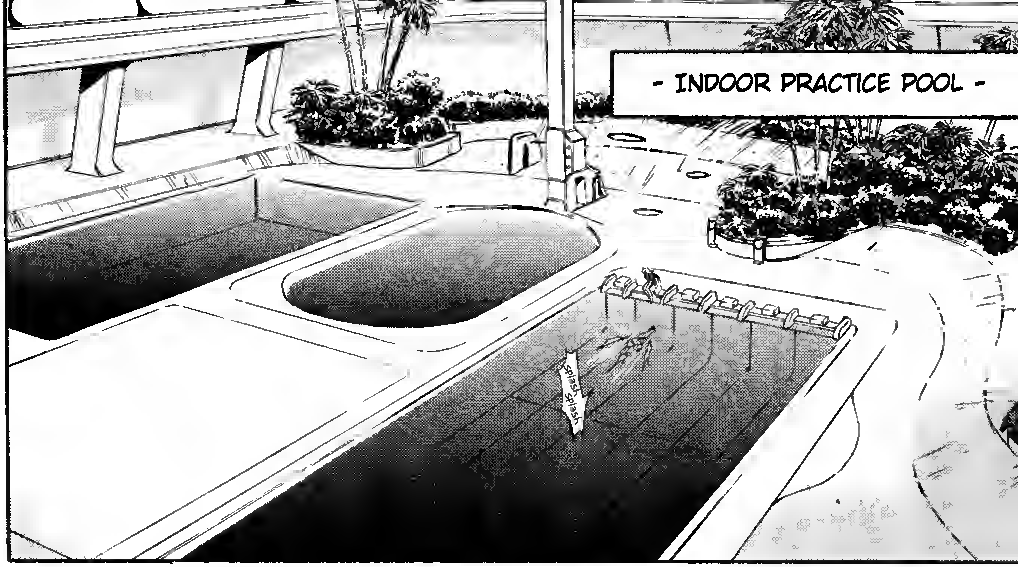
WELL WELL... A NARROW WIN, BUT NOT TOO BAD.
YEAH, BUT LING-PHA WAS RIDING A UNICYCLE AS A HANDICAP.
AL-THOUGH SHE WAS STILL FASTER THAN ME...
...EVEN WITH A HANDI-CAP LIKE THIS ...
...HOW COULD I LOSE TO ANYONE EXCEPT JESSIE ...
AHH, BUT... WITHOUT LING-PHA'S HANDICAP, I COULDN'T HAVE DONE SO WELL.
What a ridiculous day!!
THIS HAS GOT TO BE SOME KIND OF MISTAAAKE!!
...THAT'S THE HANDICAP YOU AGREED TO THOUGH.
THAT'S RIGHT! PUTTING A UNICYCLE UP AGAINST A BICYCLE IS JUST WEIRD TO BEGIN WITH!!

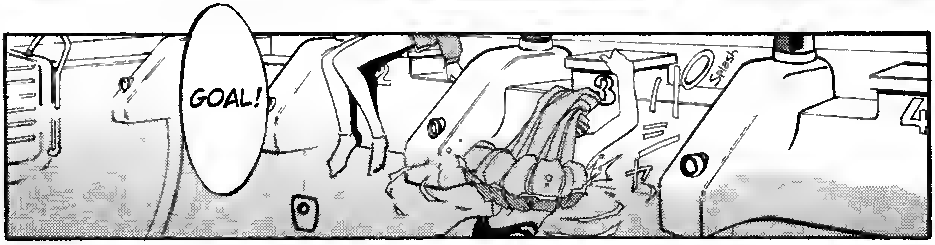
...WELL, THAT'S ALRIGHT...
...BUT,
Cranky
ぶんぶんっ
IN THE ALL-STUDENT TRIATHLON COMPETITION THREE MONTHS FROM NOW, I ABSOLUTELY WILL NOT LOSE!!
...TRI-ATHLON?
THE COMPETITION THAT DECIDES WHO WILL BE SELECTED TO ENTER UNIVERSITY SATELLITE!
...WHAT, REALLY!?
...EH?
...EH?

EEEHH!? COULD IT BE THAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW!?
... ... EH?
RECREATION Ro
...RIGHT, I DIDN'T ACTUALLY EXPLAIN THIS YET...
NO SMOKING
YOU SURE DIDN'T !!
... NEGLECTING YOUR DUTIES, HUH?
Gulp Gulp Gulp
pour
...SO IT REALLY IS THAT IMPORTANT? THE TRIATHLON, I MEAN ...
SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I GUESS.

IT'S A COMPETITION THAT'S ALSO ADMINISTERED BY THE OTHER SEVEN TRAINING SCHOOLS ...
...PUT SIMPLY, IT'S THE ENTRANCE EXAM FOR UNIVERSITY SATELLITE.
THREE STUDENTS FROM OUR TRIATHLON ...
AND FROM EACH OF THE OTHER SEVEN SCHOOLS, TWENTY FOUR IN ALL, WILL BECOME NEW ENTRANTS TO UNIVERSITY SATELLITE.
GULP
O...ONLY THREE PEOPLE ...
THE THREE EVENTS OF THE TRIATHLON ARE SWIMMING, CYCLING, AND MARATHON.
IF YOU CAN'T ACHIEVE MASTERY OF ALL THREE DISCIPLINES, RANKING HIGH WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT ...
...AND RIGHT NOW, THE PERSON BEST AT ALL THREE OF THOSE IS JESSIE.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, BECOMING ONE OF THE THREE ENTRANTS WILL BE ESPECIALLY HARD THIS SEASON...

...GEEZ... PEOPLE HAVE ENOUGH REASON TO WORRY AS IT IS ...
Meh
GU-ARGH ...
Bi" Ju
squirt
IF YOU'VE GOT SOME-THING TO SAY, SAY IT!!
AAAH NOOO OOO!!
SMASH
OHO, JUST WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THERE, LING-PHA !?
MENACE
EH, I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS NEC-ESSARY TO MENTION ICHINO BY NAME ...
WHAT'S UP, AKARI? YOUR FACE HAS GONE A BAD COLOR.
HM?
TRI-ATHLON ...
...I...
DON'T SWIM ...


- INDOOR PRACTICE POOL -

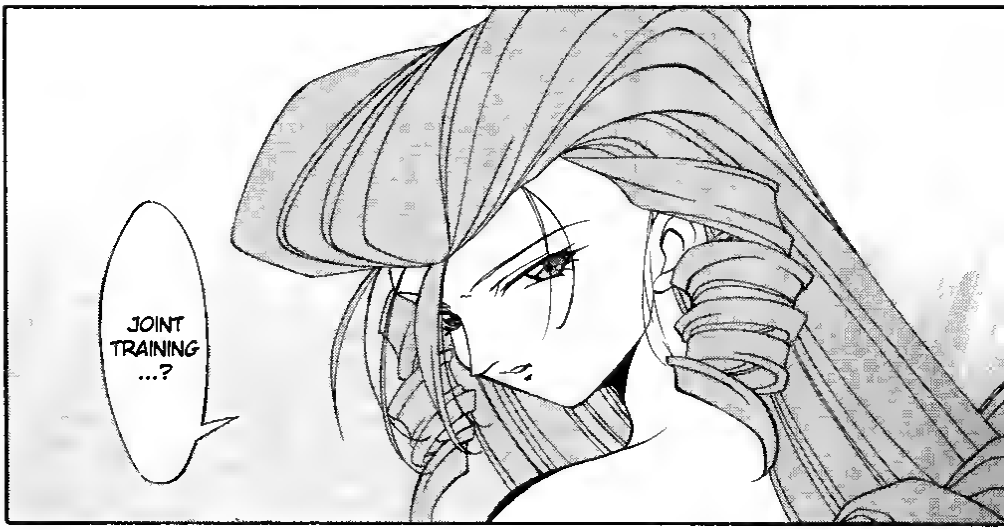

GOAL!
Splash

AYLA ...
...SO YOU'VE FINALLY MATCHED MY TIME, HMM?
Haa...
Shake

……
YOUR QUALIFYING TIME WHEN YOU ENTERED THIS SCHOOL, YOU MEAN?
DO NOT EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT WAS YOUR BEST EFFORT …
… SO I'VE BEEN FOUND OUT, HUH?
Teehee
IN THE TRIATHLON I WILL DISPLAY MY SUPERIORITY, WITHOUT FAIL.
2
……
Beep
AFTER ALL, YOU LOOKED SO HAPPY WHILE YOU WERE SWIMMING …
OH MY, YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE SUCH A SCARY FACE AT THE POOL …
HN?
AAAH, I DON'T WANT TO AFTER ALL, WATER IS TOO SCARY!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, HURRY UP AND GET OVER HERE!

WHAT KIND OF REASONING IS THAT !?
... AKARI ?
LOTS OF WATER IS WHAT'S SCARY !!
むぅ〜っ
Nnnngh!
HOW CAN WATER BE SCARY TO A PERSON WHO BATHES EVERY SINGLE DAY!?
Pull Pull
MIDOU TOMOE'S DAUGHTER ...
やだっ
Noooo!
... THAT ... MIGHT BE TRUE, BUT ...
Spurt
THAT GIRL, ICHINO, IS ALSO WORKING HARD TO ENTER UNIVERSITY SATELLITE ...
... BUT IT WAS LING-PHA'S FAULT TOO ...
Infirmary
保健室

...BUT IN ANY CASE, WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT SUCH A LUCKY BREAK AS AKARI'S INABILITY TO SWIM WOULD COME ALONG...
NOW NOW.
BUT SHE DIDN'T HAVE TO HIT ME SO HARD ...
HER RECENT LEVEL UP HAS BEEN RATHER MIRACULOUS ...
Uh oh!
Danger! Danger! Danger!
Level up...?
.....
DO... DON'T TELL ME ...
SHE'S GOING TO SOMEHOW BECOME SKILLED AT SWIMMING OUT OF NOWHERE ...!?
JUST IN CASE, I HAD BETTER TAKE STEPS ...
...TH-THAT'S PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE, BUT...
?


JOINT TRAINING ...?

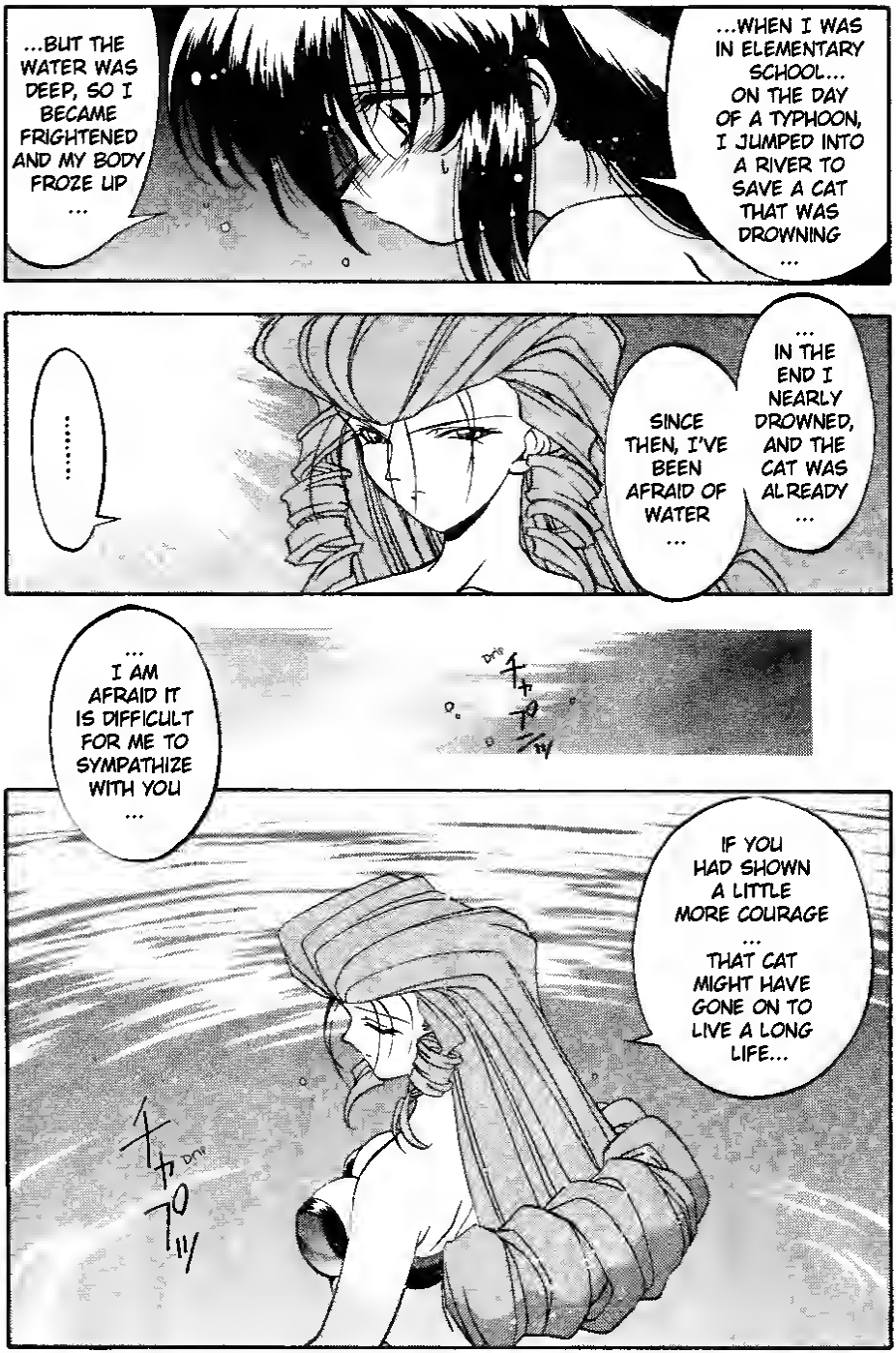
AS EXPECTED OF AYLA THE SWIMMING EXPERT... WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SCHEDULE SOME TRAINING WITH THIS KID?
Don't wanna!
Don't wanna!
... SHE'S A BIT SCARY ...

PERHAPS YOU SHOULD ASK JESSIE... SHE'D BE MORE SUITED TO IT THAN I, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?
.....

I HAVE MY OWN GOALS TO BE CONCERNED WITH.
I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO TIME TO SPEND ON OTHERS.
NOTHING LIKE THAT, JUST SHOW THIS KID A FEW SWIMMING BASICS. THAT'LL BE GOOD ENOUGH.

IF THAT'S HOW IT IS, WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO NOW!?
I MADE A PROMISE TO DO SOME RUNNING WITH TANYA AFTER THIS.
I'D ALSO LIKE TO MAKE SOME TIME FOR AKARI, BUT ...
UH, WELL! I'M OFF TOO, I WAS ASKED TO LOOK AT SOME METRICS ....
WHOOSH
...AH, I NEED TO GET GOING.
KYAAAA!!!
WELL THEN, I'M LEAVING THE REST TO YOU, AYLA!!
SPLASH
.....
EEH!? WAI... INSTRUCTOR, YOU'RE LEAVING TOO!?
AH
You rely too much on others, you know?
...DO YOUR BEST, KANZAKI!!
THUD

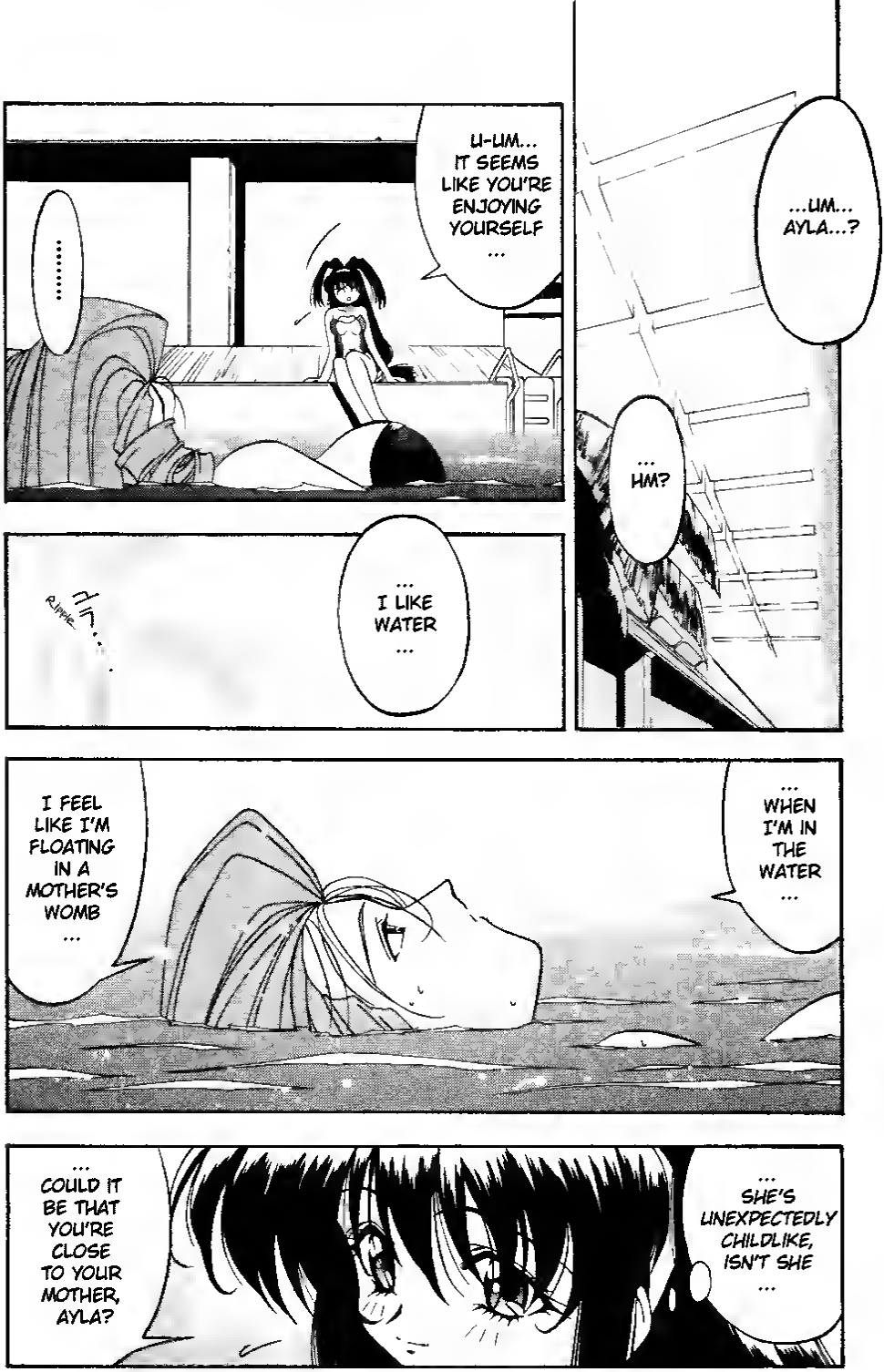
Cough
Cough
...AHH, I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DIE...
... WHY ARE YOU SO AFRAID OF WATER?
I SWAL-LOWED SO MUCH WATER ...
HUMANS ARE NATURALLY BUOYANT IN THE WATER, YOU KNOW ...
.....
...I WASN'T ALWAYS AFRAID OF WATER LIKE THIS ...


...WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL... ON THE DAY OF A TYPHOON, I JUMPED INTO A RIVER TO SAVE A CAT THAT WAS DROWNING ...
...BUT THE WATER WAS DEEP, SO I BECAME FRIGHTENED AND MY BODY FROZE UP ...
... IN THE END I NEARLY DROWNED, AND THE CAT WAS ALREADY ...
SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN AFRAID OF WATER ...
.....
... I AM AFRAID IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO SYMPATHIZE WITH YOU ...
IF YOU HAD SHOWN A LITTLE MORE COURAGE ... THAT CAT MIGHT HAVE GONE ON TO LIVE A LONG LIFE...

...
THAT'S
...
DON'T SAY THAT TO ME AFTER SO LONG ...
...
IN ANY CASE, I'VE ALREADY FILLED MY QUOTA FOR TODAY ...
YOU MAY DO AS YOU PLEASE ...
EH...UM, WON'T YOU TEACH ME...!?
Swish
!
I HAVE NO CONCERN TO SPARE ON COWARDS.
...
SHE DIDN'T HAVE TO SAY IT LIKE THAT ...
.....

Swoosh
Thunk
A POOL REALLY IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT TIME …
Splash
… SHE SEEMS TO BE HAVING FUN …
… MAYBE I WILL TRY TO SWIM A LITTLE …
……
IT'S NOT THE SAME AS THAT ROUGH RIVER IN THE TYPHOON …
Release
IT SHOULD BE FINE IF I STAY CLOSE TO THE SIDE …
Thump
Thump

!
SWOOSH
Choke
.....!!
COUGH COUGH !!
FSHHH
IT'S NO GOOD AFTER ALL!!
SWIMMING REALLY IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME AFTER ALL ...
Cough
Hack
THE WATER IS SO SCARY, MY BODY WON'T EVEN LISTEN ...
Splash


...UM... AYLA...?
...HM?
LI-UM... IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE ENJOYING YOURSELF ...
.....
...I LIKE WATER...
RIPPLE
...WHEN I'M IN THE WATER...
I FEEL LIKE I'M FLOATING IN A MOTHER'S WOMB...
...SHE'S UNEXPECTEDLY CHILDLIKE, ISN'T SHE...
...COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE CLOSE TO YOUR MOTHER, AYLA?

……
…
I DO NOT HAVE A MOTHER
…
…I WAS BROUGHT INTO BEING FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF BECOMING MY HOMELAND RUSSIA'S FIRST EVER COSMO BEALITY
…
I AM A TEST TUBE BABY, CREATED USING SUPERIOR GENES
…
"TEST TUBE BABY" …!?
I WAS BORN TO BECOME UNIVERSITY SATELLITE'S GREATEST COSMO BEALITY - THAT IS THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH I HAVE BEEN RAISED
…
THAT GOAL IS THUS THE SOLE REASON FOR MY EXISTENCE
…
…
ONCE THAT IS ACCOM-PLISHED, I WILL FINALLY
…

THE GENES THAT WERE GATHERED TO CREATE A COSMO BEAUTY, I FEEL AS THOUGH THEY WILL BECOME TRULY MY OWN...
...FINALLY BE FREE TO FIND MY OWN REASON FOR EXISTING ...
...
SHE AND I ARE ALIKE ...
.....
...SO TO BE HONEST, YOU COULD SAY THAT BECOMING A LEGEND LIKE MY MOM IS MY REASON FOR EXISTENCE AS WELL, HUH...?
BUT...MY REASON FOR ENTERING UNIVERSITY SATELLITE IS THAT I PROMISED MY MOM ...
...BUT BEFORE THAT, I NEED TO LEARN TO SWIM.
AHHH!
YOUR GENES ARE ALSO OUT OF THE COMMON WAY, SO YOU SHOULD BE MAKING BETTER USE OF THEM...

WELL, IF ONE OF MY FELLOW TOP FOUR DROWNS TOGETHER WITH AKARI, THAT'S EVEN BETTER ...
Sneak
Sneak
... I DIDN'T EXPECT AYLA TO BE HERE TOO ...
Rustle
Rustle
AND AFTER A FEW MINUTES THE CHEMICALS WILL BREAK DOWN IN THE WATER, LEAVING NO EVIDENCE!!
I've got the stuff!
BAM
睡眠薬C
SWIMMING IN THIS SUPER-POWERFUL NUMBING MEDICINE WILL TAKE YOU BOTH OUT, AKARI!
Geez a total villain
もうスッカリ悪役
...DON'T BLAME ME, BLAME YOUR OWN TALENT!
Dash
トトトッ
Glug
Glug
SORRY, AKARI!!
... THIS TOO IS FOR THE SAKE OF REACHING UNIVERSITY SATELLITE.
Pour
睡眠薬C
Glug
.....
睡眠薬C

... WHAT?
OUCH!!
... SUDDEN-LY, THE WATER ... FEELS PRICKLY!
Murky
Drip Drip
KHAA!
Splash
!!
AYLA!!
Choking

AYLA !!
... THIS HAS TO BE A JOKE, RIGHT !?
Cough
IMPOSSIBLE ... MY BODY IS SUDDENLY NUMB ...
Squish
... CANNOT ... BREATHE ...
WH- WHAT DO I DO ...
... I DON'T THINK CALLING FOR HELP WILL BRING SOMEONE IN TIME ...
キュっ
Clench
...I...
I HAVE TO SAVE HER ...!!
Tense

...I NEED TO REALLY FOCUS ON STAYING CALM, BUT...
Swish
AYLA MIGHT DIE!!
WATER REALLY IS SCARY !!
... SCARY ...
Gulp
Swoosh
IT'S SCARY, BUT ...
... BUT ...
Bubble
Bubble
I HAVE TO DO IT!!
Bubble
IT HAS TO BE DONE!

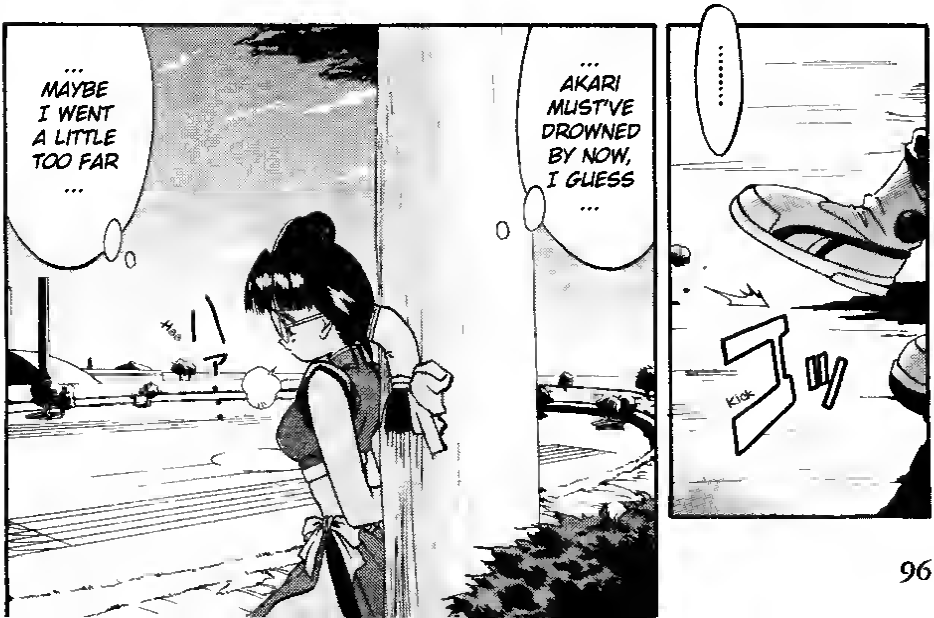
ROAR
I'M ALREADY WEAK-ENING ...
NO, I ABSO-LUTELY WON'T !!
ROAR
ABSO-LUTE-LY!!
KHA!
SPLASH

...NH...
.....
AH, ARE YOU WAKING UP?

...AAH...
I'M GLAD... ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
... YES.
... SAVED ME...?
... YOU ...
I JUST KINDA SWAM WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT IT.
AYLA WAS GOING TO DIE IF I DIDN'T DO SOMETHING SO...
Tehe
... SHE SPEAKS AS IF IT WAS A SIMPLE THING ...
...IS THAT SO...

... AS EXPECTED ...
... THE ONE WITH THE MOST SUPERIOR GENES HAS SUCCEEDED ...HUH...

AH ...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME AYLA'S SMILED OUTSIDE THE WATER ...
Gigale
.....


... MAYBE I WENT A LITTLE TOO FAR ...
Hah
... AKARI MUST'VE DROWNED BY NOW, I GUESS ...
.....
Kick

Shoot
EEP!
SHITHEAD LING-PHA AAAA!!
STAMPEDE
YOU AREN'T GONNA MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME IN PUBLIC !!
I'LL SHOW YOU UP FOR SURE ...
.....
ひえ〜
... RATHER THAN AKARI, MAYBE I SHOULD'VE WORRIED MORE ABOUT ICHINO ...
Waaaaaah
1.5t
Splash
Splash
ざばざば
...I REALLY AM GOING TO DROWN LIKE THIS!
POP UP
ぷは
... NOW DO ANOTHER 100 LAPS ...

あしおたんつの部屋!!

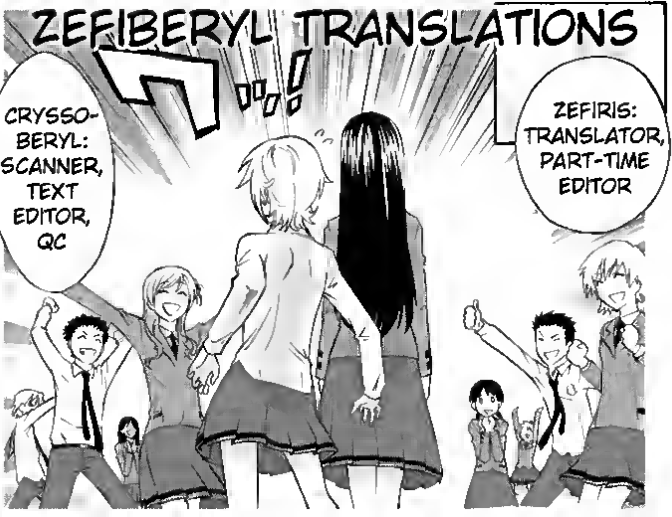
(THIS PAGE IS BASICALLY THE ASSISTANTS CONGRATULATING NAKANO-SENSEI ON THE RELEASE OF THE FIRST VOLUME, AND THEIR PERSONAL FANART OF AKARI AND LING-PHA.)

メデタイ!!

中野先生『初単行本』おめでとうございます!!
がんばったかいがあったってもんすねミ
アシスタントの鈴木淳策でした。
←けっ

あいかわらず事故ってるらしいですねー。体は大事にねぇー。by中野

久川○さんの大、ファンなんだから一乃描けばいいのに、大ファンなんだから。


ZEFIBERYL TRANSLATIONS
CRYSSO-BERYL: SCANNER, TEXT EDITOR, QC
ZEFIRIS: TRANSLATOR, PART-TIME EDITOR